

Dr. Cabot thought that those referred to could not have been made by birds. Birds which walk in soft mud have widely spread toes to support them. An impression supposed to be that of the tarsus, could be plainly seen; but no wading bird touches the tarsus to the ground. He thought these particular impressions may have been made by reptiles, or by animals ranking between reptiles and birds.

Prof. Wyman remarked that Prof. Owen formerly entertained the opinion, that an impression exactly like one of the largest of these, was made by a reptile.

Dr. D. H. Storer presented a new species of Fish, from Captain N. E. Atwood, of Provincetown, and found in the harbor at that place, which he proposed to call *Sebastes fasciatus*.

SEBASTES FASCIATUS Storer.

Body elongated, not convex in front of dorsal fin as in the *Sebastes Norvegicus*. Four distinct dark, brown, transverse bands upon the sides, the broadest at the posterior portion of the body. Length, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Fin rays as follows: D. 13-14. P. 20. V. 1-5. A. 3-7. C. 19.

A communication was received from Dr. W. I. Burnett, upon the Poison-apparatus of the Rattlesnake, as follows:

NOTES UPON THE POISON-APPARATUS OF THE RATTLESNAKE.

By W. I. BURNETT, M. D.

In the spring of 1853, I presented to the Society the results of some investigations of mine upon the development of the fangs, and the nature and mode of action of the poison of the common Rattlesnake. But these investigations were not complete in many points, as the specimens examined did not present all the characteristics of structure of this apparatus.

Since that time, in some parts of Florida, where these snakes are peculiarly abundant, I have enjoyed rare opportunities for the